DECLARATION Utility Application

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled XYPHOID ACCESS FOR CARDIAC SURGICAL PROCEDURES the specification of which

- P	
(Check One)	is attached hereto OR was filed on May 1, 1998 as United States Application Serial No 09/071,757 or PCT International Application No. and was amended on (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment(s) referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119(a)-(d) or § 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or § 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or of any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

		Priority	Priority Claimed	
Country	Date of Filing	Yes	No	
		:		
	·		<u></u>	
	Country	Country Date of Filing	n i Data of Cilina	

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code §119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

Application Number(s)	Filing Date		
<u> </u>			

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120 of any United States application(s), or § 365(c) of any PCT international application designating the United States of America, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT international application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations § 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

U.S. Parent Application Number	PCT Parent Number	Parent Filing Date	Status-Patented, Pending or Abandoned
			·

							
Send Correspondence to: Kurt T. Mulville		5, LYON LLP 633 W Fifth St., Suite 4700 Los Ang les, CA 90071		Direct Jie one calls to: 714/751-6606 Ext. 1124			
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	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	FIRST Name	MIDDLE Initial		LAST Name		
204	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	City	State or Foreign Country Count		Country of Citizen		
	POST OFFICE ADDRESS		City		State or Country	Zip Code	

I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Signature of Inventor Signature of byventor Date Signature of Inventor 203 Signature of Inventor Date Date

(Signatures should conform to names as presented at 201 et seq. above.)

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Page 2 of 2

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Page 2 of 2

COLEGIO DE ESCRIBANOS de la PROVINCIA DE SANTA FE

Segunda Circunscripción Ley 6998

CONTADURIA

Una Legalización

Serie "A"

Nº 290192





de IMPRESIONES DIGITALES Nº 23189 (Ley 6898 art.12 y Decret. 1612/95 art. 10)

Rosario, 30 - - - - - de julio - - de 19 98.
De conformidad con el requerimiento obrante en el acta número 69.
labrada en la fecha, al folio 73.- del Registro de Intervenciones

Nº 89.-, del que soy titular- - en mi carácter de ESCRIBANO PUBLICO,

en uso de las atribuciones que me confieren las Leyes y Reglamentaciones

vigentes.



CERTIFICO

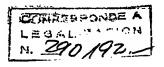
Que la/s firma/s que obra/n en el documento anexo, cuyo/s folio/s firmo y sello, ha/n sido puesta/s en la fecha y en mi presencia por FEDERICO JOSE BENETTI

AÑO DEL GIBUGI, VTERARIO DE LA LEY 5330 CONSTITUINYA DEJA SOLE NACIONALA SOLE NACIONALA SOLE NACIONALA SOLUMBANA SOL

Tengo a la vista la documentación que acredita el carácter invocado de Se deja constancia de que el documento está escrito en idioma inglés. - 10000 1









CERTIFICACION DE FIRMAS o de IMPRESIONES DIGITALES (Ley 6898 art.12 y Decret. 1612/95 art. 10)

Nº 2318934



SELLADO DE LEGALIZACION



EL COLEGIO DE ESCRIBANOS DE LA PROVINCIA DE

SANTA FE, República Argentina, en virtud de las facultades que le confiere la Ley 6898 y Decreto 1612/95, legaliza la firma y sello del Escribano don ANA MANIA STITEST DE ZAMUI. – obrantes en el documento anexo, presentado en el día de la fecha



bajo el

Nº 290192

SERIE "A". La presente legaliza-

ción no juzga sobre el contenido y forma del documento.

Rosario, 04 AGO 1998



ESC. ANALIA LAMAS do MARTINEL FERREYRA Vocal Titular